

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CANBER 06967 280658Z

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ACTION EB-07

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STATE PASS AGRICULTURE FOR MEEKER AND ANDERSON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, AS

SUBJECT: MEAT BOARD COMPLETES SHIPPING PLANS

1. AT ITS LAST MEETING THE AUSTRALIAN MEAT BOARD DECIDED TO RELEASE ALL THE BEEF REMAINING TO BE SHIPPED DURING THE LAST QUARTER UNDER THE U.S. RESTRAINT AGREEMENT. AFTER ALLOCATING 6,600 MT TO THE NORTHERN MEAT WORKS, THERE WAS A TOTAL 28,500 MT LEFT FOR THE OTHER MEAT EXPORTERS. THE LAST APPROVAL DATE FOR SHIPMENT OF THIS MEAT IS NOVEMBER 6. NO RESERVE IS BEING HELD AT THIS POINT TO COVER PENDING SHIPMENTS THROUGH MAYAGUEZ, PUERTO RICO. ONE BOARD MEMBER TOLD AGATTACHE THAT SOME ADJUSTMENTS COULD STILL BE MADE IF NECESSARY.

2. THE BOARD ALSO COMPLETED ITS PROPOSAL FOR THE CONTROL OF EXPORTS TO THE U.S. IN 1977. THE PLAN HAS RECEIVED MINISTER SINCLAIR'S APPROVAL, BUT IT STILL MUST BE PRESENTED TO THE EXPORTERS FOR FINAL APPROVAL. OUR CONTACTS HAVE INDICATED THAT IT WILL BE ACCEPTED BY THE EXPORTERS WITH LITTLE OR NO CHANGE.

3. UNDER THE NEW SCHEME 50 PERCENT OF AUSTRALIA'S U.S. ENTITLEMENT WILL BE ALLOCATED TO EXPORTERS AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH YEAR. EACH EXPORTER'S SHARE IS TO BE EQUAL TO HIS LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 CANBER 06967 280658Z

SHARE OF EXPORTS TO ALL MARKETS IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR. A

FURTHER 12.5 PERCENT OF U.S. ENTITLEMENT IS TO BE ALLOCATED TO EXPORTERS AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH QUARTER, EACH EXPORTER'S SHARE TO BE EQUAL TO HIS SHARE OF EXPORTS TO SELECTED CREDIT EARNING MARKETS IN THE PRIOR QUARTER. THUS, 62.5 PERCENT WOULD BE ALLOCATED AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH YEAR AND A FURTHER 12.5 PERCENT AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH SUBSEQUENT QUARTER. AT THIS POINT IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT CANADA, JAPAN, AND SWEDEN WOULD BE EXCLUDED FROM CREDIT EARNING MARKETS; HOWEVER, ONE-QUARTERS NOTICE WOULD BE GIVEN FOR ANY ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS FROM THE CREDIT EARNING LIST.

4. COMMENT: ALTHOUGH SOME DETAILS OF THE NEW DIVERSIFICATION SCHEME REMAIN TO BE WORKED OUT, IT APPARENTLY HAS MET WITH SINCLAIR'S INSISTENCE THAT EXPORTERS EARN AT LEAST PART OF THEIR ENTITLEMENT FOR THE U.S. MARKET BY SERVICING "DIFFICULT" MARKETS. EXPORTERS WERE PUSHING FOR A STRAIGHT QUOTA SYSTEM BASED ON PERFORMANCE TO ALL MARKETS IN THE PREVIOUS YEAR. EXPORTERS WILL NOW BE SCRAMBLING HARD FOR SALES TO THE MINOR MARKETS IN THE LAST QUARTER OF THIS YEAR AND IN 1977 TO MAINTAIN THEIR SHARE OF U.S. ENTITLEMENT.
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